

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following represents a complete listing of the claims in this application indicating the present status of each, including any amendments sought to be entered at this time. Any claims that have been canceled or withdrawn have been canceled or withdrawn without prejudice or disclaimer of any subject matter therein. The applicants specifically reserve the right to pursue any and all such claims in continuing and/or divisional applications. In this paper, claims 10, 11, 18 and 24 have been amended.

Listing of the claims:

1 (withdrawn). A method for reducing potential for substance abuse in skin-worn transdermal patch devices containing residual amounts of abusable substances of interest after removal from a first user comprising a step of causing said abusable substance of interest that remains in a patch device as removed from a first user to contact a separately stored anti-abuse substance selected from the group consisting of binding agents which immobilize and deactivate said abusable substance, and combinations thereof with co-soluble antagonists and/or irritants in a manner which negates re-use of said transdermal patch thereby reducing the potential for abuse.

2 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 1 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes a binding agent that prevents extraction

of said abusable substance of interest using a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol or combinations thereof.

3 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 1 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes a binding agent that includes activated carbon.

4 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 1 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of an antagonist.

5 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 3 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of an antagonist.

6 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 1 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of an irritant.

7 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 3 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of an irritant.

8 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 1 wherein said abusable substance is an opioid.

9 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 8 wherein said abusable drug includes a compound of fentanyl.

10 (currently amended). A system for reducing potential for substance abuse in skin-worn transdermal patch devices containing residual amounts of abusable substances after use thereof for administration of an abusable substance to a patient ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

(a) a disposable container separate from any skin-worn

patch device and having an opening therein to receive a skin-worn patch device containing a residual amount of an abusable substance therein;

(b) a layer containing in said disposable container including an amount of an anti-abuse substance for treating said residual abusable substance in said patch device, said anti-abuse substance being selected from the group consisting of binding agents for said abusable substance in said patch device, co-soluble antagonists, irritants and combinations thereof, said layer being disposed in said container in a manner such that a insertion of said skin-worn patch device properly oriented inserted into said container will cause said abusable substance in said skin-worn patch device to contact said layer including contacting said anti-abuse substance; and

(c) closure means closure device for closing said disposable container containing thereby capturing said skin-worn patch device.

11 (currently amended). A system as in claim 10 wherein said anti-abuse layer contains a binding agent that prevents later extraction of said abusable substance of interest using a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol or combinations thereof.

12(original). A system as in claim 10 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes activated carbon.

13(original). A system as in claim 11 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes activated carbon.

14(original). A system as in claim 10 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of an irritant.

15(original). A system as in claim 10 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of an antagonist.

16(original). A system as in claim 10 wherein said container is in the form of a flexible pouch.

17(original). A system as in claim 10 wherein said closure device includes an adhesive seal.

18(currently amended). A system for reducing potential for substance abuse in skin-worn transdermal patch devices containing residual amounts of abusable substances after use thereof for administration of an abusable substance to a patient, said system comprising:

- (a) an anti-abuse layer containing an amount of an anti-abuse substance for said abusable substance in said patch device selected from the group consisting of binding agents for said abusable substance in said patch device, co-soluble antagonists, irritants and combinations thereof disposed in said patch device;
- (b) source of said abusable substance in said patch device

spaced from said layer containing said anti-abuse substance;

(c) a an impermeable separator membrane situated between said layer containing an amount of said anti-abuse substance and said source containing said abusable substance preventing contact therebetween during normal use of said patch when said patch is adhered to the skin of a user; and

(d) a connector device linked to said separator membrane ~~for automatically removing in a manner that causes automatic withdrawal of~~ said separator membrane from ~~between said patch layer containing said anti-abuse substance and said source containing said abusable substance upon detachment removal~~ of said patch from ~~the skin of said~~ a user thereby allowing the anti-abuse layer and the abusable substance source to become engaged.

19(original). A system as in claim 18 wherein said anti-abuse layer contains a binding agent that prevents extraction of said abusable substance of interest using a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol or combinations thereof.

20(original). A system as in claim 18 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes activated carbon.

21(original). A system as in claim 19 wherein said anti-

abuse substance includes activated carbon.

22(original). A system as in claim 16 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of an irritant.

23(original). A system as in claim 18 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an antagonist.

24(currently amended). A system as in claim 18 wherein said connector device for automatically removing said separator membrane includes a device that adhesively attaches to the skin of a user and pulls said separator membrane from said patch upon detachment of said patch from a user.

25(withdrawn). A method for reducing potential for substance abuse in skin-worn transdermal patch devices containing residual amounts of abusable substances of interest after removal from a first user comprising steps of:

- (a) providing an amount of an anti-abuse substance maintained separated from said abusable substance of interest;
- (b) causing said abusable substance of interest that remains in a patch device as removed from a first user to contact said anti-abuse substance; and
- (c) wherein said anti-abuse substance is selected from the group consisting of binding agents which immobilize and deactivate said abusable substance, and combinations thereof with co-soluble antagonists, and/or irritants

which, when contacting said abusable substance, negates re-use of said transdermal patch devices.

26 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 25 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes a binding agent that prevents extraction of said abusable substance of interest using a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol or combinations thereof.

27 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 25 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes a binding agent that includes activated carbon.

28 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 25 wherein said abusable substance is an opioid.

29 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 28 wherein said abusable drug includes a compound of fentanyl.

30 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 25 wherein said anti-abuse substance is stored in a pouch and step (b) involves inserting a removed patch into the pouch.

31 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 25 wherein said anti-abuse substance is stored in a layer separated by a removable membrane from the abusable substance and wherein in step (b) removing the patch causes the membrane to be removed and the abusable substance to contact the anti-abuse substance.

32 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 25 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of an irritant.

33 (withdrawn). A method as in claim 25 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of a co-soluble antagonist.